

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SONS OF THE REVOLUTION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

HON. CARLOS J. MOORHEAD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives the 103d birthday of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California, founded in my home State in May 1893.

The Sons of the Revolution was first organized in New York on December 18, 1875, primarily by members of the Society of Cincinnati, the oldest and most revered Revolutionary War group.

The Sons of the Revolution in the State of California was formed on the 8th day of May 1893 and incorporated in the county of Los Angeles 4 days later by members of the New York Society then living in California.

The membership of the Sons of the Revolution is composed solely of the posterity of those individuals who served in the Revolutionary War in a number of vital capacities. In order to be eligible for membership in the history-making Sons of the Revolution, an individual must have had a family member who participated in the Revolutionary Army, Marines, or Navy; served the Continental Congress or the Congresses of any of the Thirteen Colonies that supported the Revolutionary War effort.

As one might expect, Mr. Speaker, the membership rolls of the Sons of the Revolution make for fascinating and famous reading.

Through their various patriotic, historical, and educational activities, this storied organization has and continues to encourage and inspire the people of California and the United States. It continues to honor the memory of those brave individuals who pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor so that all Americans could enjoy the freedoms and liberties established more than 200 years ago under our Constitution and enjoyed by all today.

To a considerable extent, Mr. Speaker, this inspiration and education has been accomplished through the Sons of the Revolution Library, which has operated in my hometown of Glendale for the past 103 years. The library has received no financial support from any governmental agencies. It has been kept open, free-of-charge, to the public in keeping with the purposes of the society to perpetuate the memory of the brave men who fought in the Revolutionary War.

The library with a collection of more than 35,000 volumes, is well-known as one of the largest genealogical and historical collections of its type in California.

The library is not only blessed with a magnificent collection of books and manuscripts, but also houses some exceptionally rare artifacts. These include George Washington's leopard skin saddle pad, one of two remaining

silk flags reviewed by George Washington, early U.S. Navy boarding swords and leather fire buckets from Adm. David G. Farragut's flagship, U.S.S. *Hartford*, just to name a few.

Not only does the library serve as a valuable research tool, it also serves as a meeting place for the Daughters of the American Revolution, the California Society of the War of 1812, the Aztec Club of 1847, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, the Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States, the Army and Navy Union of the United States, U.S. Submarine Veterans, Society of Colonial Wars in the State of California.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased and honored to recognize and pay tribute to the Sons of the Revolution in the State of California on their 103d birthday. We only have to travel a short way from our borders to realize how richly blessed we are as a people and a nation. We have liberties and opportunities few in history have enjoyed. For this untold bounty, we owe much to the Sons of the Revolution and their families.

HONORING THE LANCASTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Lancaster Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people gave freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catches fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their services and sacrifice.

IN HONOR OF GEN. VANG PAO

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a special leader from the 19th Congressional District, Gen. Vang Pao. He is deserving of the highest commendations for his many contributions to the development of the Hmong and Laotian communities in central California.

In his native country, Gen. Vang Pao served in the military to promote democracy and freedom for the Laotian people. He was a young military leader in the Royal Lao Army in association with the French Government during World War II and the chief military commander of the 2d Military Division in the Northern Provinces of Laos, 1960-75, in partnership with the United States during the Vietnam war. During the war, Gen. Vang Pao's troops helped block the supply line running from North Vietnam through Laos to South Vietnam, and he and his troops helped to save thousands of American lives and rescue hundreds of American pilots who had been shot down near the Vietnam/Laos border.

In 1977, Gen. Vang Pao founded the Lao Family Community and established branches throughout the United States to provide employment services, vocational training, counseling, cultural orientation, health education, English classes, and resettlement services for Southeast Asian refugees. In 1982, he founded the Hmong National Council to preserve Hmong culture and to help the Hmong people in the United States in areas of social adjustment, family services, and integration into the American mainstream. Gen. Vang Pao founded the Lao Movement for Democracy to seek and promote peace, democracy, and human rights for the Southeast Asian nations.

The contributions that Gen. Vang Pao has made to the Hmong and Laotian people of California have been invaluable. He was made a lasting impression on those individuals with whom he has been associated. I am pleased to have him as a constituent in California's Central Valley.

HONORING RICHY RAYMOND

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very special fourth grader from Carlton Elementary School of Yamhill County, OR. This exceptional young man took it upon himself to help the victims of the February floods which devastated communities throughout our region.

Richy Raymond believed that he and his classmates could lend a hand and raise

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

money for the recovery efforts by donating a penny a day for 10 days. He had anticipated collecting approximately \$45 to contribute to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund.

Richy never anticipated that donations would pour in from his entire school, as well as other schools and communities within Yamhill County. Even places as far away as Bend and Bandon, OR, sent in their heartfelt contributions. To date, Richy's campaign, "Kids Can Help—Pennies Count, Too" has collected a remarkable \$6,000 to help victims of the floods.

Richy is truly a fine example of our youth today and of our great Oregon spirit. As Oregonians continue their efforts to recover from the flooding, I applaud Richy's compassion and dedication, and am privileged to have this opportunity to recognize him before the House of Representatives today.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RICHARD BOXER
1996 LUBAVITCH OF WISCONSIN
HONOREE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, Dr. Richard Boxer who will be honored by Lubavitch House of Wisconsin on Tuesday, June 18, 1996.

In honoring Dr. Richard Boxer, Rick, as he is known to his friends, Lubavitch of Wisconsin is paying tribute to a man who has done so much for the community he loves. He is a man who truly is dedicated to the well-being of others not only in our community, but throughout this country.

Rick is an outstanding doctor, and in 1995 was appointed by President Clinton to the National Cancer Advisory Board, and the National Institutes of Health. He also serves as a senior adviser for health care for the 1996 Clinton-Gore national campaign and was named best urologist in Milwaukee in 1987, 1991, and once again in 1996.

Throughout his career, Rick has published many articles, lectured around the world, won several awards, and still found time to raise a family with his wife Barbara. His dedication to serving others transcends medicine.

Lubavitch programs have helped many people throughout the years by providing to those in need. Its educational commitment, children and youth programs, counseling, and shelter services have been of great importance to our community. Rick has supported Lubavitch and its programs as they aim not only to help those in need, but also to boost awareness and pride in Milwaukee's Jewish community.

Lubavitch of Wisconsin has made a wise choice in honoring Dr. Rick Boxer at their annual Lubavitch celebration. Rick, his wife Barbara, and their children should all feel a sense of pride in receiving this recognition.

Congratulations, Rick, this is an honor that is well deserved.

HONORING THE LASCASSAS
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Lascassas Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES W. NELSON

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my friend and fellow St. Louisan James Nelson, who retired last week as Special Agent in Charge of the FBI for Missouri after a career that has spanned a quarter century. It is fitting to recognize Jim for his work on behalf of his country.

Born and raised in St. Louis, Jim graduated from Southwest High School and then went on to the University of Missouri. In 1964 and 1965, he played professional baseball with the Minnesota Twins. Jim later enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he served our country as an artillery officer in Korea.

Jim began his work with the FBI in 1969 as a Special Agent, and from 1976 to 1981, he worked at FBI Headquarters as the Chief of the La Cosa Nostra investigations. Jim was then selected to attend the senior command course at the British Police College in Bramshill, England.

In 1982, Jim was assigned as Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's Los Angeles office, where he oversaw their narcotics, organized crime, and general criminal operations, as well as managing security for the 1984 Olympics. In 1987, he returned to Washington, DC as chief of the General Crimes

Section, which is responsible for a wide array of sensitive FBI investigations throughout the country. Jim has lectured extensively, and has been an expert witness in numerous trials. Jim was assigned as Special Agent in Charge of the FBI for the State of New Mexico from November 1988 until he assumed his duties in Missouri in June of 1991. He retired last week after 27 years of service to our country to begin a new career in the private sector.

Personally, I have known Jim for more than 30 years. I have the utmost respect and admiration for him and his achievements in fighting crime. I am honored to recognize him here today, and wish him a happy retirement and the best of luck for his new career.

H. RES. 416, 417

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, today the House leadership brought to the floor a resolution to establish and fund a select subcommittee to investigate the United States role in Iranian arms transfers to Bosnia and Croatia. This is an excellent example of the type of government spending that the current majority is fond of railing against.

It was public knowledge early in 1994 that Iran was sending arms into Bosnia, and the Republican majority raised no objections. In fact, it was also in 1994 that Congress passed the Defense Authorization Act mandating that the President stop enforcing the arms embargo against Bosnia, making this current Republican effort clearly a cynical political undertaking.

The President's Intelligence Oversight Board has investigated the matter, and concluded that the administration has broken no laws. In addition, three separate investigations of United States policy in Bosnia are currently underway. The new subcommittee would be conducting a fourth investigation at the cost of \$1 million, making it the most expensive subcommittee in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, it seems apparent the House leadership is attempting to establish a new subcommittee to dim the President's foreign policy achievements. They are ignoring their own calls to end frivolous government spending by attempting to establish an unneeded subcommittee. If new House leadership feels so strongly that another investigation into this matter is warranted, at the taxpayers expense, then the International Relations Committee is fully capable of conducting such an inquiry with existing funds. This is a cynical political exercise because it wastes \$1 million of the taxpayers' money.

TRIBUTE TO THE FEDERATION OF
ITALIAN-AMERICAN ORGANIZA-
TIONS OF QUEENS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to rise to pay tribute to the Federation

of Italian-American Organizations of Queens, NY, a group that this year celebrates its 25th anniversary. I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing and honoring this very important organization for its dedicated services to the Queens community.

The mission of the Federation of Italian-American Organizations of Queens is unique. It works to transform social clubs into activist organizations. To this end, the federation encourages the clubs' attention to the problems of the Italian-American community. It assists members in becoming citizens of the United States and educates them to the rights guaranteed by the American Constitution. The federation's goal is that with the status and knowledge, they may more effectively advocate for and serve their community.

The federation encourages the unification of Italian-American societies in Queens, New York, a borough of New York City with a very high Italian-American population. It seeks to maintain and promote a higher involvement in social and political issues; to teach the belief and ideals of the United States; to fight against discrimination and derogatory stereotyping; and to provide assistance, support, and cultural betterment to its members, among several other goals. It has been very successful in these pursuits. I am pleased to report that the federation currently assists approximately 10,000 individuals and families every year.

The federation was founded in 1971 by four friends: Anthony Gazzara, Vincent Iannece, Tom Bullaro, and Phil Ciccariello. Their original goal was to bring together the active Italian-American societies in Astoria, Queens, and to revive the traditional parade in honor of Christopher Columbus.

Although poor weather prevented the parade in that first year, nevertheless the federation has flourished and today consists of at least 22 Italian-American societies in Queens. Through the pursuit of its goals, it has become a valuable instrument for addressing the needs and problems of the Italian-American community in Queens.

Mr. Speaker, in the year of its 25th anniversary, I am proud to rise in honor of the Federation of Italian-American Organizations of Queens. It is a truly venerable institution in its community and very worthy of the collective tribute of this body here today. Thank you.

HONORING THE MONROE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Monroe Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study

the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO FANNIE MAE FOUNDATION AND THE NBA'S HOUSTON ROCKETS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday afternoon, April 10, 1996, Fannie Mae Foundation and Clyde Drexler and Chucky Brown, star players with the back-to-back World Champion Houston Rockets, joined together in their second Work Day to increase home ownership and rehabilitate Houston's neighborhoods.

The Home Team partnership was designed to revitalize Houston's neighborhoods and to provide home buying information to help more Houstonians achieve their dream of home ownership.

Houston's "Home Team" and the Fannie Mae Foundation held a ribbon-cutting welcome home ceremony at two newly-landscaped homes which Rockets and Fannie Mae Foundation employees began constructing last December in Houston's Fifth Ward neighborhood located in the 18th Congressional District. The new homeowners are single parents and first-time home buyers.

The Work Day was led by my friend, J.J. Smith, who heads up Fannie Mae's partnership office. Fifth Ward Redevelopment Corp., a local nonprofit organization dedicated to providing housing to lower income and first-time home buyers—also deserves credit for this partnership. They are the true heroes behind this effort.

The best part of this story is that Houston has two new homeowners, setting the precedent that home ownership is possible for other local families. I will continue to support the good work of the Fannie Mae Foundation, and recognize the valuable time the Rockets players and staff take out of their busy schedules to make a difference in the lives of our local families and send the message that the American dream of ownership is possible for every family.

HAMDEN TEACHER RETIRING
AFTER 40 YEARS OF DEDICATED
SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, at the end of this 1995–96 academic year, Barbara Reiber will retire from the Hamden Public School System after 40 years of dedicated service. As a committed high school teacher, she has worked tirelessly to educate students, and engage them in their community. It is with tremendous pleasure that I rise today to salute this incredible individual, who means so much to me and has contributed so much to the town of Hamden.

Barbara's dedication to expanding the minds of high school students is illustrated by a lifetime of public service. Her career has involved teaching U.S. history, world history, and Third World history as a teacher in the social studies department at Hamden High School. In addition, she has been extremely active in curriculum and staff development throughout her 40 years in the system.

Most characteristic of Barbara, however, has been her tremendous energy and generosity in contributing to extracurricular activities at Hamden High School. She has recognized the importance of developing young leaders, and expanding their education through community involvement. Throughout her career she has supported and strengthened several student organizations. Having served as advisor to the student council and human relations club, Barbara enhanced the awareness and leadership skills of many Hamden High School students.

During the past 2 years Barbara has been very supportive of an initiative that is of special significance to me, the Anti-Crime Youth Council. Without the commitment and effort of people like her, this regional organization, which involves high school students in projects to tackle issues related to youth violence, would never have developed. Time and time again she offered energy and ideas to this organization, and was dedicated to engaging Hamden High School students in the process. She recognized the value of creating opportunities for teenagers to address common problems at a regional level, and worked closely with my staff to organize Anti-Crime Youth Council activities.

It is exactly this commitment to community that distinguishes the career of Barbara Reiber and it is with great pleasure that I commend her for 40 years of achievement and service to our community. I join her colleagues, and her friends and family members in thanking Barbara for caring so much for Hamden's youth, and in wishing her a very enjoyable retirement.

WARM WELCOME TO EAST JESSAMINE MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. SCOTTY BAESLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. BAESLER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the newly formed

East Jessamine Middle School from Nicholasville, KY on their trip to Washington, DC. Washington, enshrined in history and tradition, provides an excellent setting for both educational and exciting activities. It is always refreshing to hear of young men and women with an interest in visiting our Nation's Capital. This trip demonstrates East Jessamine Middle School's dedication to excellence in education. I wish them the best for the future.

HONORING THE AUBURN TOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Auburntown Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

EX-PROSECUTORS CRITICIZE KENNETH STARR

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, since coming to the House and joining the Judiciary Committee, I've been involved with the independent counsel law. When that law expired just as Bill Clinton was taking office, I was one of the Democrats who insisted that it was essential that we reauthorize the law, despite the fact that it would now be once again be a Democratic administration which would be subject to its impact. I noted that the law had originally been passed by a Democratic Congress under a Democratic President, and that Republican objections during the 1980's and early 1990's that it was a partisan instrument aimed at them was obviously inaccurate.

And I am pleased that the Democratic leadership in Congress and President Clinton did everything possible to get the law reauthorized—even though it did lapse temporarily because of a Republican filibuster in the Senate.

When questions arose involving accusations about the President in 1993, I was one of those urging that an Independent Counsel be appointed. I think Attorney Reno behaved with great integrity and appropriateness in doing everything she could under the law to provide for an independent investigation, even during that period when the law had temporarily lapsed because of that Republican filibuster. And I have continued to defend the institution as a necessary one.

I am therefore all the more distressed by the insensitive and disturbing pattern of behavior engaged in by the current independent counsel, Kenneth Starr. First, it should be noted that Judge Sentelle, who was named by Chief Justice Rehnquist to head the panel of judges who appoint independent counsel, erred grievously by appointing someone as partisan and as politically opposed to the Clinton administration as Kenneth Starr as the independent counsel to investigate the President in the first place. Mr. Starr should have said no. And having said yes, he should have determined that he would be extremely careful in carrying out his duties in a way that minimized any concern about his objectivity and fairness.

Instead, he has behaved in a way that has bothered a wide range of objective observers, including apparently many of those who have preceded him as independent counsel. In Monday's Washington Post, R.H. Melton writes a story which is accurately headlined "Ex-Prosecutors Concur on Case Against Starr's Private Work."

In the article, R.H. Melton quotes from a wide range of former independent counsel, including several people who held important appointed office under Republican President, who agree that Kenneth Starr has erred seriously in his conduct in the independent counsel office. Particularly by taking on a wide variety of cases in which he is representing people who are legally and politically arrayed against the President he is investigating, Mr. Starr has compromised the very nature of the independent counsel office.

This investigation of the President has already gone on for a very long time, with no results in terms of any negative information being brought forward against the President. It costs an enormous amount of money for the results we have gotten, and it has called into question unfortunately the usefulness of this very important office.

Mr. Speaker, the article by R.H. Melton and the wide range of Republican and Democratic criticisms of the independent counsel so quoted in it makes it clear that this is a serious problem, and not simply a case of Democrats objecting to Mr. Starr's work. As one who has worked hard to preserve this important office, and who joined in asking for an independent counsel to look into the allegations against President Clinton, I am extremely disappointed by Mr. Starr's performance and I think it is appropriate for R.H. Melton's documentation of the view of previous independent counsel about Mr. Starr's work to be printed here.

EX-PROSECUTORS CRITICIZE KENNETH STARR (By R.H. Melton)

The former independent counsels are a varied lot, composed of Republicans and Demo-

crats, smooth-talking silk-stockings and gruff old men. Varied, too, were their assignments. Some had big cases; some worked virtual anonymity.

But from the well-heeled New York lawyer to the New Orleans septuagenarian, the former prosecutors agree on one thing: Whitewater counsel Kenneth W. Starr has put himself in a bad spot.

In separate interviews last week, former prosecutors expressed a consensus view that their old U.S. government position, with its broad investigative powers, is too important for any counsel to be distracted by the busy outside caseload and high-profile clients that Starr has kept. They advise Starr to strictly limit the non-Whitewater activity that has prompted recent criticism and focus on his wide-ranging investigation into President Clinton's decade-old real estate venture and the White House reaction to inquiries into the matter.

"He's devoting a hell of a lot of time to private practice," said Gerald J. Gallinghouse, 75, a Republican and retired U.S. attorney from New Orleans who investigated an aide to President Jimmy Carter on a drug allegation in early 1981.

"He should either get in or get out," Gallinghouse said. "I don't give a damn about the Republicans, Democrats, Bull Moose or mugwumps. He should get on with the investigation and bring it to a conclusion as soon as practicable. And you're not going to do it with the top man running all over the country making speeches and taking care of private clients."

Starr's clients range from tobacco giants to the NFL Players Association. Last month his schedule took him from the halls of the Supreme Court to a federal appeals court in New Orleans within one week. He has some clients whose interests are inimical to those of the Clinton administration. In a major school-voucher case in Wisconsin, for example, Starr was paid by a conservative foundation that has funded some of Clinton's harshest critics.

Even though his outside work is quite legal, critics point to such cases as evidence that Starr is not as independent or devoted to his government duty as he should be. Much of the criticism has been strongly partisan, fueled by White House aides and other Democrats who want a tidy resolution to Starr's inquiry before the presidential election this fall.

Still, the observations of the former counsels are unusual in their breadth and force. Some of them know Starr personally, and others know his reputation as a brilliant legal mind with strong Republican credentials. Nearly all of the seven counsels interviewed expressed surprise that Starr would load so much on his plate and stir partisan controversy, particularly in an inquiry focused squarely on a sitting president and first lady. A few of them voiced disappointment.

Starr declined to be interviewed for this article, but a month ago he issued a spirited defense against the criticism that had been mounting against his outside caseload. Starr told a bar association group in San Antonio that the independent counsel "was never expected to become a full-time employee of the government and leave his or her law firm."

"To require independent counsels . . . to become full-time employees wastes not only government resources, but the legal talents of the individuals called to serve," Starr said.

Starr noted that nearly all of the independent counsels continued to maintain their private practices. But a number of them recalled in interviews that they scaled back their practices sharply and turned down prospective clients who may have created the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Ten independent counsels were named between 1978 and 1992 and two others conducted confidential investigations. The inquiries ranged widely in complexity and cost; Iran-contra cost \$47 million and lasted nearly seven years; a three-month investigation into a drug allegation against an aide to Carter cost \$3,348. The Whitewater inquiry by Starr and his predecessor has cost more than \$20 million so far and is one of three now pending against the Clinton administration.

Arthur H. Christy, a New York lawyer appointed in late 1979 to investigate a drug allegation against Carter White House chief of staff Hamilton Jordan, said he declined to defend "some white-collar criminal types because I don't think it was appropriate to be defending them on the one hand and on the other trying to put some guy in jail."

Arling M. Adams, a former federal judge from Philadelphia who looked into allegation of financial improprieties involving Department of Housing and Urban Development money, said that while he did not completely divorce himself from his law firm at the time, "I did substantially restrict my activities."

"People might say I'm a fool" because of the lost income, he said, "but I had in mind in particular the necessity of gaining the confidence of the public and the press. I tried to avoid anything that would deflect attention from what I was doing as IC. The issue is perception and confidence."

A number of the independent counsels interviewed last week said investigating a sitting president puts a special burden of probity on the investigator.

"It's different order of magnitude," said Lawrence E. Walsh, the Oklahoma lawyer and former judge who ran the Iran-contra investigation. "The one excuse for an IC is his independence. If not necessarily full-time detachment from everything else, he can't be involved with anything that impairs his freedom of action."

"When you're investigating a president, it's different," said Joseph E. diGenova, a Republican who was named an independent counsel in late 1992.

DiGenova, a former U.S. attorney in the District who as independent counsel looked into the State Department's search of Clinton's passport records, said that while Starr has "pristinely adhered" to the statute permitting counsels to keep their private legal practices, he should eliminate all the partisan sniping by relinquishing it for now.

"It's a distraction," diGenova said. "He's giving the enemies of the law ammunition to use against him. He should take away the phony weapon from his adversaries."

Whitney North Seymour Jr., a New York litigator who as counsel won a prejury conviction against former Reagan White House aide Michael Deaver, said the complexities of that case forced him to work virtually full time.

"When we were engaged in the intensive parts of the investigation or trial preparation, I did not have time for anything else," Seymour said. "My practice was to be hands-on; interviewing witnesses, reading documents and presenting to the grand jury."

James C. McKay, a partner at the Washington firm Covington & Burling who investigated the Wedtech defense contractor and Reagan White House political director Lyn Nofziger in the late 1980s, said he regarded the assignment as a full-time job. "I shed everything I was doing after a month," McKay said. "I was devoting 99.9 percent of my time to the job I was given to do. I felt like I could concentrate on the very difficult problems much better if I did that and the job could be done more quickly and efficiently."

Added diGenova: "For the good of the office and the good of the investigation, sometimes you have to do some things you don't want to do."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINDA SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mrs. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on rollcall vote 153. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF THOSE INVOLVED IN THE SEARCH FOR WILLIAM E. COLBY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of more than 100 individuals—both paid and volunteer—who spent many hours in the cold waters and on the shoreline of the Wicomico River searching for the late William E. Colby, the former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. The search ended early Monday morning after his body was discovered near the shoreline, ending an intense search that began when his canoe was found April 28.

There were many agencies and organizations involved in the search which was headed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Police. I want to recognize all of the participants in this search, including Sheriff Fred Davis and the Charles County Sheriff's Department who handled press inquiries and protected the Colby residence.

The search involved countless volunteer hours and assistance from: the Maryland State Police Aviation Division; the Charles County Dive Team, who were the first divers in the search; the Cobb Island Volunteer Fire Department and EMS; the Seventh District Volunteer Fire Department Boat 5 from St. Mary's County; the Marbury Volunteer Fire Department—using their rescue boat and dive team; the Bel Alton Volunteer Fire Department; the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Department Dive Team; the Calvert County Dive Team; the U.S. Coast Guard; the Prince George's County Dive Team—Companies 22, 49, and 56; the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department; Sardon Search and Rescue Dogs; the Cobb Island Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary; the Charles County Communications Department; the Virginia State Marine Police; the Naval Surface Warfare Center EOD Dive Team and the Rescue Squad Dive Team from Dahlgren, VA; and numerous local citizens who volunteered in many different ways.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the efforts of the paid and volunteer members of this special community. These individuals engage in hundreds of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance lifesaving skills just to be ready for emergency rescue calls and searches. Charles County and other communities across America benefit daily from the services of

these dedicated professionals who are ready 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and they deserve our continued thanks.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the efforts of the volunteer fire and rescue services personnel and other agencies involved in the intense search for Mr. Colby which lasted more than 1 week. I want each of them to know that my colleagues in Congress share my pride in the selfless manner in which they carry out their mission in our community and every community throughout America.

HONORING THE MONTEREY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Monterey Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School at Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catches fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for all of us. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

IN MEMORY OF ALLEN C. MEIER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today before the House to celebrate the life of Allen E. Meier, Jr., who passed away peacefully in San Francisco, CA on September 10, 1993.

On Friday, May 3, 1996, the family and friends of Allen Meier gathered at Congregation Emanu-El for the rededication of the robing room of the temple in his loving memory.

The refurbishment of the robing room was made possible by the gifts of loving friends and family members to the Allen E. Meier, Jr. fund of the congregation as the first in a series of beautification and preservative projects.

This undertaking was one that Allen Meier would have participated in himself and is a fitting tribute to him because few human beings embodied the devotion and dedication present in this good man.

A member of a pioneer Oregon family and native of Portland, OR, Allen Meier acquired early on an internal drive to succeed. He served in leadership roles with the American Import Bank in San Francisco and on the board of the trustees of the Meier and Frank Co.

Yet the business community was not Allen's only community. With infinite vision and wisdom, Allen understood the importance of community involvement and volunteerism. His community participation was exhibited in his service to SCORE, KCBS call for action, the Temple Emanu-El, and the San Francisco Academy of Sciences as a docent.

As a loving husband, a caring father, a World War II veteran, and a community leader in San Francisco, Allen C. Meier was a master of both devotion to his family and his community.

For his loving wife Janis and three daughters, Lynn, Muffie, and Mary, the many loving nieces, nephews and cousins, as well as the innumerable friends of a lifetime, Allen Meier will be missed all the days of our lives. May his sweet memory live on in what the robbing room represents.

AN ECONOMIC AGENDA

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, May 8, 1996, into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

AN ECONOMIC AGENDA

One of the key questions facing policy-makers today is what can be done to help improve the standard of living for the average American. I hear from people all the time who tell me they are working harder and longer than ever, but they feel squeezed and are just barely getting by. I believe we must make a determined effort in this country for a higher rate of economic growth. That must become one of our nation's top priorities. Higher growth will come from more saving and investment and from greater productivity, and it will do much to improve the outlook for working Americans.

STATE OF ECONOMY

All of us know that the overall economy is doing reasonably well. Growth and inflation are both around 2%. Many jobs are being created and the unemployment rate is low. The deficit is going down. Stock prices are at an all-time high. But at the same time, there is tremendous unease about the economy. Lay-offs and downsizing are continuing as the inevitable result of global competition and technological change. There is job insecurity, enormous income inequality, and significant pressure on families.

I believe President Kennedy was right when he talked about a rising tide lifting all boats. We must have stronger economic growth.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Economic growth is the rate at which the overall economy grows from year to year. In 1994 our nation's total output of goods and

services (Gross Domestic Product) was \$7.1 trillion and in 1995 GDP was \$7.25 trillion, for a growth rate last year of 2.0%.

The U.S. growth rate has slowed since the decades after World War II. Economic growth averaged a robust 3.9% per year in the 1950s and 4.3% in the 1960s, but it has dropped to 3.2% in the 1970s, 2.7% in the 1980s, and, with the 1990-91 recession, 1.8% so far in the 1990s. We need to do better. Many economists believe that we should be striving for growth of around 3.5% per year over the long term. They believe that the structure of the economy has changed in recent years to allow that kind of growth without reigniting inflation.

Growth in the material standard of living is obviously not the sole measure of success as a society. But strong, balanced, and sustained economic growth helps in many ways. Jobs multiply and wages rise during periods of solid growth. Prior to the 1970s when we had strong economic growth, wage growth was also solid. But as the economy has slowed, wage growth has flattened out. Strong economic growth also makes it easier to balance the budget, as the growing economy boosts revenues and reduces social safety net costs, and it makes it easier for Americans to tackle a variety of domestic problems. Strong economic growth alone cannot solve the nation's problems, but without it they are likely to become increasingly difficult.

We need, in short, an economy that will provide employment for everyone willing and able to work, and an economy that will provide opportunity for a consistently higher standard of living for those employed. The only way I know to get that is with strong private sector growth. That growth will come from higher levels of investment and superior public services.

PRO-GROWTH AGENDA

I believe there are several parts to a pro-growth agenda. First, we must balance the federal budget. Large federal borrowing drains the pool of national savings available for productive private sector investment and it drives up interest rates. Progress has been made on the deficit, as it has been cut in half over the last four years. We need to build on that progress, put aside our partisan differences, and balance the budget.

Second, we need to reform the federal tax system so economic growth becomes a much more central objective. That means it has to do a much better job of encouraging saving and investment. How it should be restructured to achieve that is a matter of debate. We may need a variation of the flat tax, a lower tax on capital, or a system of taxing consumption instead of investment, but we must put at the top of our national agenda a search for a tax system that enhances growth.

Third, we must expand our trade opportunities and open foreign markets to U.S. products. Jobs in exporting industries tend to be higher-paying, so our companies must have fair access to the rapidly growing markets overseas. We need to continually review and adjust U.S. trade policy to make sure it is working in our national interest and is helping to expand our economy and good-paying jobs.

Fourth, we need to curb excessive and costly government regulations. Many federal regulations provide important health and safety protections. But overall we need to make sure their benefits exceed their costs and they are carried out in the latest burdensome way. Regulations should recognize that a vibrant private sector is the best engine for economic growth and jobs.

Fifth, I also think we need higher levels of public investment in infrastructure. Federal,

state, and local governments need to invest in more and better roads, bridges, highways, water systems, sewer systems, harbors, ports, airports and all the rest that helps make the private sector more productive. We also need to promote investment in research and technology, which boosts economic growth.

Finally, we need greater attention to upgrading the education and skills training of our workers. Improving educational performance is an absolute priority in today's world so all Americans—not just those at the top—can prosper as the economy grows. Education is, of course, primarily a state responsibility, but it is a national problem. Access to higher education and more skills training is a must.

I do not suggest that such changes will come about easily. We must be prepared to deal with the human problems that emerge. We should do all we can, for example, to create a system of portable pensions and portable health care to cushion the transition for people who have to move from one job to another. We must find ways of providing profit sharing and stock ownership plans for employees, not just for the top corporate management, so everyone has a greater stake in the success of our companies.

CONCLUSION

In sum, our objective is simple: higher growth in the American economy. That basic goal needs to become the much more central focus of what the federal government does on a variety of fronts—whether it be our budget or tax policy or our trade, regulatory, and public investment policy. In the end I think what is important for working people is for this economic system of ours to grow and to create more good-paying jobs. We don't know all the answers about getting higher growth, but we know some of them, and we should get about the business of implementing them.

LET'S FILL THE EDUCATIONAL GAS TANKS, NOT LET THE KIDS RUN OUT OF GAS

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make my point for the children in school today who may be struggling with economics as put forth by Representative ARMEY over the weekend. The Gingrich-Armeley Republicans have now suggested that a reduction in a Federal tax on gasoline should be offset by further cutting Federal spending for education.

All across America students and teachers are probably scratching their heads this morning trying to figure out how any person in their right mind, much less a person in an apparent position of responsibility such as being a Member of the U.S. Congress, could conceive of such a crazy robbing Peter to pay Paul scenario.

If we were to seriously consider such a crazy alternative—then we would probably be dumb enough to believe some of the statistics reported by Representative ARMEY in a national television talk show last weekend. In fact, Mr. ARMEY said that the Gingrich-Armeley proposed gasoline tax repeal might make Americans happy because it would save the average motorist about \$27 a year.

If Mr. ARMEY would do his own math on comparing the proposed gasoline tax repeal

with a raise in the minimum wage, he would see that the average American minimum wage earner would benefit to the tune of about \$36 per week by an increase from \$4.15 to \$5.25 per hour. That's about \$1,872 a year. Now I ask you, what American in their right mind would prefer \$27 and a reduction in funding for education to \$1,872 a year. As the young people say these days, "I don't think so."

A proposed rebate by repeal of \$27 per year wouldn't even be a drop in the bucket to most Republicans, pocket change to those who usually avoid any comparison with the average American unless it is an election year. Even as an election year ploy, the Gingrich-Army Republicans ought to be able to do better than \$27 a year. But to suggest that even that pittance be offset on the backs of children takes GINGRICH to grinch in a fast minute.

Mr. Speaker, our educational system is already in danger of running out of gas because of all the cuts that the Gingrich-Army Republicans have already shoved down the throats of the kids on the playgrounds, parents, and the members of school boards across America. We need to increase Federal support to education, not reduce it.

The Gingrich-Army Republicans want our educational system to run out of gas in the middle of the superhighway. Once again, the Gingrich-Army Republicans have shown that they are completely out of touch with the American people.

HONORING THE LANCASTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Lancaster Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

H.R. 3413, COMMUTER RAIL SAFETY ACT OF 1996

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will improve working conditions for train employees, while improving safety for rail commuters.

On the morning of February 9, 1996, hundreds of New Jersey commuters experienced the worst commuter rail accident in the history of New Jersey Transit. The accident claimed the lives of 3 people—including 2 train engineers—and injured 162 others. In combination with other safety factors, the accident was possibly a result of operator fatigue because one of the train engineers was working a split shift on very little sleep.

On a split shift, a train employee may work up to 12 hours, provided that employee is given a continuous rest period of at least 4 hours. The operator of one of the trains involved in the New Jersey Transit accident reported to work at 6 p.m. Thursday evening and operated trains until 1 a.m. Friday morning. He had a rest period from 1 a.m. to 5:40 a.m., when he resumed operating trains until 8:40 a.m.—the time of the accident. Several of New Jersey Transit's train engineers at the time of the accident regularly worked split shifts, often splitting a late evening shift and an early morning shift.

While there is no way to know whether or not operator fatigue, due to what is known as a "split shift", played a major role in the New Jersey Transit collision that occurred in February, one thing is certain—the split shift was not sound policy.

In response to the deadly New Jersey Transit train crash, I am introducing the Commuter Rail Safety Act of 1996. This legislation addresses the suspected cause of the tragic February accident—operator fatigue. As a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, which oversees our Nation's railroads, I feel it is my obligation to take additional measures to ensure the safety of train employees and commuters.

Under the Commuter Rail Safety Act, commuter train operators will no longer be forced to work risky shifts whereby they work several hours in a late night shift, take a 4-hour break, and then begin working an early morning shift. This provision addresses the problem of diminished alertness during morning hours that results from having been on duty during the nighttime. Furthermore, by doing away with overnight duty on commuter trains, my legislation eliminates the problem of employees not having an adequate place for rest in the middle of the night. In many instances, an employee working an evening/morning split shift is forced to sleep in a chair, in a noisy train station, or in an unoccupied railcar.

This legislation still allows split shifts that begin the initial tour of duty in the morning, 4 to 8 a.m., for such shifts do not interfere with an individual's natural sleep cycle—circadian rhythm.

The second provision in the Commuter Rail Safety Act is to provide train employees with 8 hours notice of their next job, with the only exception being shorter notice in the event of an emergency.

Currently, a train employee might be given anywhere between 1 and 3 hours' notice to report for duty. We feel that this practice fosters fatigue due to the resulting irregular and unpredictable work schedules. By allowing 8 hours' notice, this bill gives employees more preparation time for duty—preparation time to rest!

Third, this bill provides train employees with 8 hours of undisturbed rest, with the only exception being the 8-hour notice for duty.

While most rail carriers currently provide 8 hours of so-called undisturbed rest, many see no problem in calling an employee during this rest period. Daily interruptions experienced by train employees, including constant phone calls updating employees of their next job or asking them to fill in for industry's scheduling mistakes, are unnecessary and create undue stress on those employees. It is critical that all train personnel who are responsible for the safety of hundreds of commuters each day be adequately rested.

Last, this legislation establishes criminal consequences for any rail employer or employee who intentionally fails to report rail accidents or injuries to the appropriate Federal and State authorities. In fact, it goes so far as to prevent an employer from discharging or discriminating against an employee who properly reports such an event. This provision prevents coverups of safety violations on the part of employer and employee and is a critical part of this safety legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the Commuter Rail Safety Act has one focus—safety for train employees and commuters. It is my hope that, with the Commuter Rail Safety Act, we will be able to prevent tragic accidents, such as the NJ Transit collision, from happening in the future. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE JOSEPH AND MICKEY WAPNER

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. ANTHONY C. BEILENSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I are honored to pay tribute to our good friends Judge Joseph and Mickey Wapner, who this year are being recognized by the Brandeis-Bardin Institute for their significant contribution to Jewish life. We can think of few couples who together have been so involved for so long in Democratic Party politics and Jewish community activities as have the Wapners. Allow us to share a few examples.

Beginning in the 1960's, Mickey established a pattern of total devotion to the causes and people in whom she believed. In 1960 she was speakers bureau coordinator for the John Kennedy for President campaign; from 1967 to 1970 she was west coast director of public relations for the American Jewish Committee; from 1966 to 1968 she was a member of the California Commission on the Status of Women. In 1970 Mickey was named assistant

to the dean and director of alumni and development at the UCLA Graduate School of Architecture, a position she held until her retirement in 1983. Despite her busy professional life, she continued to tend to Jewish and political affairs throughout the 1980's and into the 1990's.

Her husband has proved that being a visible television personality is no excuse for neglecting one's community. From 1981 to 1993 he was judge on the nationally syndicated program "The People's Court," which made him a bona fide celebrity. Still, during this time Judge Wapner continued his extensive involvement in civic and community affairs, including membership on the board of trustees of Alternative Living for the Aging and honorary chairman of the National Jewish Hospice. He is the recipient of numerous honors, such as the Golden Glow Award from Senior Health and Peer Counseling and the Maimonides Award from the legal services division of the Jewish Welfare Fund.

Both Judge and Mickey Wapner have been staunch supporters of the Brandeis-Bardin Institute, which this year is honoring the couple at its annual dinner. The Moelle Library and tennis and basketball courts at the institute are a result of the generosity and leadership of the Wapners.

We ask our colleagues to join us today in saluting Joseph and Mickey Wapner, dear friends who have done so much for so many. Their selflessness is a shining example to us all.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NIANTIC-HARRISTOWN SCHOLASTIC BOWL TEAM

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the gifted students of the Niantic-Harristown Scholastic Bowl team for their recent class A State championship. We often honor our athletic champions, but I believe it is equally important to celebrate the academic achievements of our students. The dedication and hard work that went into this season would be hard to overestimate. I salute the efforts of the team and the leadership and encouragement of their coach, Donna Cheatham.

I am pleased and proud that the young people of my district are placing such a high regard on scholastic achievement. They understand that information is the key to success now and in the future, and that problems can be solved via the rigorous application of knowledge. The future of this country depends on people who will not back down from a challenge, and are willing to explore the world around them. The scholastic bowl provides an excellent forum for this kind of critical thinking, combining it with the pressure and excitement of a tournament situation.

Mr. Speaker, what makes the accomplishments of the team all the more special was the way in which it was received in the community. A reception and rally were held for the squad, where families, friends, and the surrounding area showed just how much pride they took in this victory. Undoubtedly, this is

just the precursor to future successes for the team members. I wish them the best of luck in all of their endeavors, and hope that their achievements will inspire other young people to strive for the same. I would now like to read their names into the RECORD. Michael Pyle—team captain, Thomas Moore, Adam Vaught, Brian Woodard, Nicki Scales, Misty Pettyjohn, Anna Leonard, Edward Leonard, Clint Walters, and Michael Loud.

MONTCLAIR DAYS OF CARING

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, Saturday, May 11, marks the beginning of Montclair days of caring. Montclair days of caring is an effort developed by the United Way of North Essex and a steering committee made up of Montclair community leaders and service providers.

Montclair, NJ, is a township filled with individuals and families that care about their community. The Montclair days of caring is a perfect example of what can be done by a community of caring people. The residents of Montclair will participate in volunteer graffiti-littered walls with murals; cleaning up a neighborhood park, the railroad tracks, a day camp, the black top recreation area behind a center; painting the interior and exterior of the homeless shelter; working with youth in hands-on leadership problem solving exercises through gymnastics; creating get well cards for hospital patients; drawing on placemats for senior nutrition sites; repairing a gazebo; collecting and dropping off items needed for the homeless shelter; and donating blood.

I am sure Montclair's volunteers will go home with a full sense of accomplishment and a sense of community building. They would have participated in activities to encourage people, young and old, to get involved in Montclair to make the town the best it can be.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will want to join me as I thank all the volunteers for their efforts in Montclair days of caring. I want to congratulate the United Way of North Essex and the steering committee for taking the initiative in developing this project.

INTERVIEW WITH DR. JEFFREY SATINOVER

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, this is about the best book on homosexuality written in our lifetime. Read this interview and learn. And pray.

[From the Wanderer, Apr. 18, 1996]

THE WANDERER INTERVIEWS DR. JEFFREY
SATINOVER

(By Paul Likoudis)

Q. Do you accept the concept of mediarchy, that is, that the United States is ruled by a media elite? If so, to what extent are people's feelings and thought patterns manipulated by homosexuals or homosexuals through the mass media?

A. I think the best answer comes from Russian author Alexander Solzhenitsyn. In his 1978 graduation address at Harvard—which was not well-received by the liberal elite—he said that the degree of thought control exercised by the Western media in relatively spontaneous ways was far more effective and tyrannical in its capacity to impede free thought among Americans than anything ever achieved by the totalitarian regime in the Soviet Union.

Let me give you one example and then make a generalization: There was a series of studies published in scientific journals which tested and measured the effect of various short descriptions of possible causes of homosexuality on subjects' attitudes toward homosexuality.

These studies showed that certain carefully crafted statements such as "homosexuality is biological," as opposed to "developmental," would cause a dramatic shift among naive subjects toward accepting and approving homosexuality.

Recognizing this, gay activist promoters deliberately, carefully, and widely promulgated the fantasy that homosexuality is "genetic." This has had an enormous impact as predicted, even though there is not a shred of evidence for it. Such evidence as there is merely supports the possibility that there are nonsexual inherited factors that make homosexuality easier.

Tactical manuals aimed at educating activists and sympathizers are routinely published by major houses and are available for all to read. These make it explicitly clear that activists have a game plan for altering public opinion through the media. Anyone reading the manuals can see at once how successfully these tactics have been implemented.

Q. Some homosexuals have recently boasted that they control the so-called professions of appearance—public relations, advertising, fashion, media, interior decorating, and so on. Do you think this boast is justified, and, if so, do you think the fashion industry reflects the views and attitudes homosexuals have on women and of young people?

A. Let me answer this way: A friend of mine recently self-published an enormously successful children's book. He and the illustrator, both devout Christians, met with groups of potential children's books publishers in New York. But the publishers were unaware of their religious convictions and generally conservative leanings. They, therefore, spoke openly of the fact that the book presented far too positive a picture of fatherhood and the publishers made it clear they were engaged in a subversive mission to undermine the image of family in the psyches of children.

With respect to fashion, which always flirts with the edge of the "forbidden," there is an inevitable and not necessarily entirely bad aspect of it which will appeal to "gay" sensibilities. A lot of "gay" literary criticism emphasizes the inherently violative nature of the homosexual approach to boundaries of every sort. As part of an overall artistic world within a relatively stable culture, these violations probably do no more than add spice to the stew in a relatively benign way.

But in our cultural stew the base stock is almost entirely evaporated and so the spice is now all you can taste. You can't survive on it.

Q. To what extent is the feminist women's movement co-opted or linked to the homosexual movement?

A. In George Orwell's 1984, one of the most shocking, and at the time implausible, features he envisioned was the stark separation of the sexes into two involuted and mutually hostile camps.

It's not that feminism has co-opted homosexuality or vice versa; both are the inevitable consequence of a failure to adhere to the higher vision of the union of the sexes that lies at the heart of the Judeo-Christian tradition. Absent that vision, sex as a naked, despiritualized sort of pleasure will join with the natural difference of interests between the sexes to reinforce their opposition and thereby destroy the family.

Feminism is not really a political movement and homosexuality is not really about sex. They are each merely different symptoms of the same profound spiritual malaise which is now spreading throughout the culture.

Q. What do you think of the homosexual drive for political "minority status," and is that justified?

A. No. It is not justified because homosexuality is changeable. On the other hand, there is no question that people who have identified themselves as homosexuals for either all or part of their lives are subject to irrational and vicious personal attacks. There is no place for that in civilized society. There is a clear distinction between being properly opposed to the gay activists agenda and being improperly opposed to people who wrestle with their sexual problems.

Q. Increasingly, one hears that there is not only heterosexuality, homosexuality, and bisexuality, but now we are told that there is an "entire spectrum of sexual orientations."

Does the concept "sexual orientation" mean anything, that is: Is heterosexuality merely an "orientation," one of potentially many and on the same footing as others? Or is the phrase just nonsense?

A. There is no such thing as sexual orientation of any sort. The genetic structures that underlie human behavior include a very complex set of physiological responses that constitute biological sexuality. Those physiological mechanisms can be triggered under innumerable circumstances. The human mind, however, rooted in the brain, is subject to an almost infinite degree of plasticity in the ways that it will symbolize experience.

Under the right circumstances, for human beings in contrast to animals, whose nervous systems are far more "rigid," almost anything can become sexualized and therefore become a symbolic stimulus to sexual response.

When I hear the phrase "sexual orientation," I think, "There's another 'stop thought' meant to paralyze reason."

Q. Sometimes we hear of young people being encouraged to "dabble" in homosexual relationships to discover their "orientation." Can a person casually experiment or dabble in homosexuality in young adult years with immunity from psychological effects?

A. There are two issues here. First: Someone with a relatively healthy upbringing who has not been badly hurt by early experiences could experiment with any variant of sexuality without its leading to a more-or-less permanent habit of one sort or another.

However, someone whose early upbringing was filled with a certain kind of suffering is at risk of discovering a seemingly attractive but false form of comfort for that suffering in various "perverse" forms of sexual expression. They are at risk.

There is a larger question, one which has been almost entirely lost from our understanding of human nature. It is a fact that the first sexual experiences have a dramatic impact in shaping certain expectations about what one's sexual experience is and should be. For instance, early exposure to pornographic images, especially if coupled with masturbation, can diminish the capacity of an individual imperfect real person.

This can produce subtle, even imperceptible, impediments to intimacy.

Q. How do you view the attempts of the homosexual image creators to establish the victimhood status of homosexuals, exemplified by the symbol of the pink triangle? Do you see homosexuals as victims?

A. Oftentimes, homosexuals have been victims of horrific childhood experiences. One study examined over 1,000 homosexual men and found more than 40% were subjected to childhood sexual molestation. It is also true that people who wrestle with homosexuality or identify themselves or are perceived as homosexuals are treated with contempt and cruelty.

The important thing is for the individual wrestling with homosexuality not to become fixated on the idea of victim status as a false compensation for what he or she really wants: a kind of fulfillment that can only be found in deep, rich, marital, and family intimacy.

On the political side, there is no doubt that with great savvy and understanding of mass psychology, gay activists, like feminist activists before them, like socialist revolutionaries before them, and like French revolutionaries before them, have found in the coupling of victim status to political agitation an extremely potent instrument to disrupt the social order.

Q. To what extent do you see homosexuality leading to sadism and masochism, especially among younger people, typified by piercing, tattooing, scarifying, branding, and other acts of mutilation?

A. I wouldn't say that homosexuality *per se* leads to these other things; it's that A) once certain sexual taboos are overthrown, everything becomes permissible; and B) for those people whose early experiences of deprivation have been linked to much pain there can develop a progressively worsening addiction to ever-more extreme forms of sexual stimulation.

Such a psychological configuration is going to be found more commonly among people who have broken sexual taboos of any sort.

Q. Are homosexuals more inclined to engage in pedophilia and pederasty than heterosexuals, and are lesbians prone to that behavior?

A. Lesbians are not prone to that behavior, and are much less prone to it than heterosexuals. Pedophilia is almost exclusive to males. Among males, pedophilia is at least three, and perhaps as much as 11, times more frequent among homosexuals males than heterosexual males.

Activists correctly point out that the majority of pedophiles are heterosexuals, but this is because homosexual males constitute less than one thirty-third of the male population. A recent issue of the *Journal of Homosexuality*, published by prominent activist, devoted an entire issue to the debate among gay activists as to the degree to which pedophilia is a core component of the homosexual worldview.

Q. In your recent book, you write of the opposing views toward homosexuality among Orthodox Jews and Christians and liberal Jews and Christians. How do you explain the dramatic shift in support of homosexuality within Christianity, and especially in the Catholic Church in the United States and Canada, as also among Reformed Jews?

A. The former is no more genuine Christianity than the latter is genuine Judaism. Paganism has always embraced polysexuality.

Q. What are the major implications of the homosexualists infiltration of the churches?

A. I would view this phenomenon as a symptom rather than as a primary event. It reveals the complete lack of confidence in

the Judeo-Christian understanding of reality.

Q. In many Catholic dioceses, pro-homosexual pastoral ministers and others are trying to make parishes "gay and lesbian welcoming" or "inclusive." What effect do you think that will have on parishioners and on Christianity in general?

A. The whole concept of inclusivity is a bit of propaganda right out of 1984. First, the term automatically implies without stating so that anyone opposed to the agenda pointed to by the word is of necessity "exclusive."

It destroys their faith. Because they know perfectly well, either via "natural law" or via their familiarity with Scripture, or simply through common tradition, that something is not right in what they are being told. The only way that they can make peace with this contradiction is either by repudiating the false leadership or by repudiating what their hearts tell them.

Q. What do you think will be the impact on young children of gay and lesbian celebrations in Catholic churches, on children who will see homosexuals and lesbians at church, social functions, in schools, and so on?

A. Anything that normalizes homosexuality will increase confusion about sexuality and sexual roles, will distance future adults from the traditional model of the family, and will increase the likelihood of vulnerable youngsters, those of a certain kind of background, to pursue, either temporarily or permanently, homosexuality.

Q. What effect do you think AIDS education has on young children?

A. Its chief impact is to desensitize children to boundaries which were previously considered taboo. AIDS education among at-risk populations has been going on for 15 years now, and yet epidemiologists have confirmed in independent studies around the country that the incidence of "unsafe sex" reached a bottom about six years ago and has been climbing steadily upward ever since.

Unsafe sexual practices were never reduced by more than 50%. This is touted as a success, but when dealing with a fatal illness, it is actually a terrible failure.

Right now, 30% of all 20-year-old young men who consider themselves homosexual will either be HIV positive or dead of AIDS by the time they are 30, according to these studies. And yet, the success rate for homosexual change—in spite of the absence of a coordinated national effort to identify the causes of homosexuality and to help people overcome it—is greater than 50%. That is to say, as or more successful than change rates produced by "safe sex" and AIDS education.

SALUTE TO ALVIN BROWN

HON. BILL EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a dedicated and tireless public servant, Mr. Alvin Brown. Mr. Brown is the former director for community development with the Department of Agriculture. In this capacity, he oversaw the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community Program for the administration and worked to ensure that designated communities had the necessary assistance and know-how available to them.

I am delighted to take just a minute to highlight the significant contributions that Mr. Brown has given as Director of the EZ/EC

Program. His service to my constituents in the Eighth Congressional District of Missouri and to countless other communities was the embodiment of public service at its finest! Alvin, we greatly appreciate your commitment to bettering America's small communities.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for inclusion into the RECORD a copy of a letter sent to the President and Agriculture Secretary Glickman from myself and Mr. DE LA GARZA recognizing the achievements of Alvin Brown.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 17, 1996.

The PRESIDENT,
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We are writing to express our sincere appreciation for the work and accomplishments of Mr. Alvin Brown in his capacity as Director for Community Development with the Department of Agriculture. As Director of this office, Mr. Brown administered the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community Program set forth by your Administration with great distinction and effectiveness. His assistance and expertise were extremely important to many communities including the ones designated in our respective Congressional districts.

Throughout his tenure as Director, Mr. Brown traveled extensively throughout the designated communities to provide technical assistance and creative solutions to the tasks at hand. His services were particularly valuable to rural areas such as the ones that we represent. Speaking from first-hand experience in working with Mr. Brown, he provided an invaluable service to our constituents as they sought to work through the guidelines of their new designation. He personally took the time to visit our respective Enterprise Communities and has continued to offer guidance for enhancing economic development opportunities.

Alvin Brown is an exemplary public servant. As Members of Congress with newly designated Enterprise Communities in our district, we are mindful and greatly appreciative of the efforts put forth by Mr. Brown.

Sincerely,
BILL EMERSON,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Department
Operations, Nutrition, and Foreign
Agriculture.
E (KIKI) DE LA GARZA,
Ranking Democrat,
House Committee on Agriculture.

CONGRATULATIONS VENICE HIGH STUDENTS ON NATIONAL SCIENCE BOWL VICTORY

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, as a kindergarten-through-high school graduate of the Los Angeles Unified School District, I am particularly proud to congratulate five LA Unified students from my district who recently won the prestigious National Science Bowl contest.

Noah Bray-Ali, David Dickinson, Le My Hoang, Candice Kamachi, and Christopher Mayor, all students at Venice High School, claimed a first place victory earlier this month in this contest, which tests students' knowledge of computer science, biology, physics, chemistry, and other topics in a grueling 2 day competition. The contest is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy.

As a member of both the Science and National Security Committees of the House, I have a keen appreciation for the value of science education. It is clear from the hearings these committees convene on the challenges facing our Nation in the 21st century that our future economic prosperity and security depend on cutting-edge scientific advancements. And, in order to make those advancements, we need to continue to teach and train students who will become our future scientists and engineers. I am pleased that Venice High and other schools in LA Unified are prepared to fill that need.

The Venice High students faced many obstacles in their way to victory. They competed against 54 other high schools from around the Nation representing 39 different States. Most amazingly, they successfully competed even though they started their school year without a physics teacher and had to rely on self-discipline and the help of a substitute teacher for the first few months of the school year.

In addition, these students faced many of the challenges students everywhere face as a result of dwindling resources and the sometimes dangerous atmosphere that students encounter on their way to school. Venice High has, in recent years, experienced problems with gang violence, but with strong support from family and teachers, the students have been able to pursue their goal of academic excellence.

I also wish to congratulate Coach Richard Erdman, and Walter Zeisle of the Department of Water and Power, whose agency generously sponsored the student's trip to Washington.

A TRIBUTE TO THE MOTHERS OF ST. PAUL AME CHURCH

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, this weekend mothers all over the country will be honored. On Saturday, in my district, a special tribute is being paid to the mothers of the St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church in East Orange, NJ, pastored by the Reverend Donald C. Luster.

In the African-American community, our female elders are honored with the title of mother. The women being honored by St. Paul's are all at least 80 years old and have served their families, our community, and the church faithfully for many, many years. These women have seen history in the making. They have made sacrifices so that others would be better off.

Our communities were better off because of women like these who treated all children like their own. It was not unusual for "Miss Rose" to reprimand you for something you did wrong and then tell your mother about it when she came home from work. These women were the strength of our communities. In many cases, they were, and still are, our salvation.

Mr. Speaker, reading the biographies of these women is like reading a copy of Who's Who. The group contains business owners, educators, a nurse, those active in politics, and seamstresses but most important, they are all mothers. They are mothers who love

their children, their grandchildren, their great grandchildren, and their great-great grandchildren. And all of these children love them.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues will join me as I offer my best wishes to all mothers, especially to the honorees—Mrs. Ophelia Love Achoe, Mrs. Armeller Brown, Mrs. Lucretia F. Counts, Mrs. Edith Cowan, Mrs. Ethel Green, Mrs. Alma Powell Gamble, Mrs. Alma Jones, Mrs. Luella Powell Koonce, Mrs. Era Worthy, Mrs. Florence V. Luster, Mrs. Daisy Tolliver—and their families.

THE HOPE FOR AMERICA

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, here are words of wisdom to save our souls.

THE HOPE FOR AMERICA

Remarks by Dr. Billy Graham, Congressional Gold Medal Presentation, Capitol Rotunda, Washington, DC, Thursday, May 2, 1996

Mr. Vice President; Speaker Newt Gingrich; Majority Leader Bob Dole; Senator Strom Thurmond; Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate; distinguished guests and friends.

Ruth and I are overwhelmed by the very kind words that have been spoken today, and especially by the high honor you have just bestowed on both of us. It will always be one of the high points of our lives, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for this unforgettable event. We are grateful for all of you in the Senate and House who have had a part in it; and President Clinton for his support in signing the resolution.

As we read the list of distinguished Americans who have received the Congressional Gold Medal in the past—beginning with George Washington in 1776—we know we do not belong in the same company with them, and we feel very unworthy. One reason is because we both know this honor ought to be shared with those who have helped us over the years—some of whom are here today. As a young boy I remember gazing at that famous painting of Washington crossing the Delaware. Only later did it occur to me that Washington did not get across that river by himself. He had the help of others—and that has been true of us as well. Our ministry has been a team effort, and without our associates and our family we never could have accomplished anything.

I am especially grateful my wife Ruth and I are BOTH being given this honor. No one has sacrificed more than Ruth has, or been more dedicated to God's calling for the two of us.

However, I would not be here today receiving this honor if it were not for an event that happened to me many years ago as a teenager on the outskirts of Charlotte, North Carolina. An evangelist came through our town for a series of meetings. I came face-to-face with the fact that God loves me, Billy Graham, and had sent His Son to die for my sin. He told how Jesus rose from the dead to give us hope of eternal life.

I never forgot a verse of Scripture that was quoted, "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12, KJV). That meant that I must respond to God's offer of mercy and forgiveness. I had to repent of my own sins and receive Jesus Christ by faith.

When the preacher asked people to surrender their lives to Christ, I responded. I had little or no emotion; I was embarrassed to stand with a number of other people when I

knew some of my school peers saw me; but I meant it. And that simple repentance and open commitment to Jesus Christ changed my life. If we have accomplished anything at all in life since then, however, it has only been because of the grace and mercy of God.

As Ruth and I receive this award we know that some day we will lay it at the feet of the One we seek to serve.

As most of you know, the president has issued a proclamation for this day, May 2, 1996, to be a National Day of Prayer. Here in Washington you will see and hear of people throughout the District of Columbia praying today. It is encouraging and thrilling that here, and across the country, people have committed themselves to pray today for our leaders, our nation, our world, and for ourselves as individuals. I am so glad that before business each morning, both the House of Representatives and the Senate have a prayer led by Chaplain Ogilvie of the Senate, who has had so much to do with this event today, and Chaplain Jim Ford, who used to be chaplain at West Point when I went almost every year to bring a message to the cadets.

Exactly 218 years ago today—on May 2, 1778—the first recipient of this award, George Washington, issued a General Order to the American people. He said, “The . . . instances of Providential Goodness which we have experienced and which have now almost crowned our labors with complete success demand from us . . . the warmest returns of Gratitude and Piety to the Supreme Author of all Good.” It was a message of hope and trust, and it also was a challenge for the people to turn to God in repentance and faith.

We are standing at a similar point in our history as less than four years from now the world will enter the third Millennium. What will it hold for us? Will it be a new era of unprecedented peace and prosperity? Or will it be a continuation of our descent into new depth of crime, oppression, sexual immorality, and evil?

Ironically, many people heralded the dawn of the 20th Century with optimism. The steady march of scientific and social progress, they believed would vanquish our social and economic problems. Some optimistic theologians even predicted the 20th Century would be “The Christian Century”, as humanity followed Jesus’ exhortation to love your neighbor as yourself. But no other century has been ravaged by such devastating wars, genocides and tyrannies. During this century we have witnessed the outer limits of human evil.

Our mood on the brink of the 21st Century is far more somber. Terms like “ethnic cleansing,” “random violence” and “suicide bombing” have become part of our daily vocabulary.

Look at our own society. There is much, of course, that is good about America, and we thank God for our heritage of freedom and our abundant blessings. America has been a nation that has shown a global compassion that the rest of the world seemingly does not understand. After World War II because we had the Atom Bomb, we had the opportunity to rule the world, but America turned from that and instead helped rebuild the countries of our enemies.

Nevertheless, something has happened since those days and there is much about America that is no longer good. You know the problems as well as I do: racial and ethnic tensions that threaten to rip apart our cities and neighborhoods; crime and violence of epidemic proportions in most of our cities; children taking weapons to school; broken families; poverty; drugs; teenage pregnancy; corruption; the list is almost endless. Would the first recipients of this award even recognize the society they sacrificed to establish?

I fear not. We have confused liberty with license—and we are paying the awful price. We are a society poised on the brink of self-destruction.

But what is the real cause? We call conferences and consultations without end, frantically seeking solutions to all our problems; we engaged in shuttle diplomacy; and yet in the long run little seems to change. Why is that? What is the problem? The real problem is within ourselves.

Almost three thousand years ago King David, the greatest king Israel ever had, sat under the stars and contemplated the reasons for the human dilemma. He listed three things that the world’s greatest scientists and sociologists have not been able to solve, and it seems the more we know, and the greater our technology, the more difficulties we are in. In perhaps the best-known passage of the Old Testament, Psalm 23, he touches on the three greatest problems of the human race.

First, David said, is the problem of emptiness. David wrote: “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.” He was not talking just about physical want, but spiritual want.

I stood on the campus of one of our great universities some time ago, and I asked the Dean, “What is the greatest problem on your campus?” He replied in one word: “Emptiness.” The human heart craves for meaning, and yet we live in a time of spiritual emptiness that haunts millions.

“Nirvana” is the Hindu word for someone who has arrived into the state of perpetual bliss. Media reports said that Kurt Cobain, the NIRVANA rock group’s leader, was the pacesetter for the nineties, and the “savior of rock and roll.” But he said the song in the end which best described his state of mind was “I hate myself and I want to die!” And at age 27 he committed suicide with a gun.

Second, is the problem of guilt. David wrote: “He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness.” Down inside we all know that we have not measured up even to our own standards, let alone God’s standard.

Third, David pointed to the problem of death. “Yea, through I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me.” Death is the own common reality of all human life. Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown did not realize his time had come when he stepped on that plane in Croatia a few weeks ago.

From time to time I have wandered through Statutory Hall and looked at all those statues of some of the greatest men and women in our nation’s history. But one thing is true of every one of them: They are all dead.

Yes, these three things—emptiness, guilt, and the fear of death—haunt our souls. We frantically seek to drown out their voices, driving ourselves into all sorts of activities—from sex to drugs or tranquilizers—and yet they are still there.

But we must probe deeper. Why is the human heart that way? The reason is because we are alienated from our Creator. That was the answer David found to these three problems: “The Lord is our shepherd.” This is why I believe the fundamental crisis of our time is a crisis of the spirit. We have lost sight of the moral and spiritual principles on which this nation was established—principles drawn largely from the Judeo-Christian tradition as found in the Bible.

What is the cure? Is there any hope?

Ruth and I have devoted our lives to the deep conviction that the answer is yes. There is hope! Our lives can be changed, and our world can be changed. The Scripture says, “You must be born again.” You could have a spiritual rebirth right here today.

What must be done? Let me briefly suggest three things.

First, we must repent. In the depths of the American Civil War, Abraham Lincoln called for special days of public repentance and prayer. Our need for repentance is no less today. What does repentance mean? Repentance means to change our thinking and our way of living. It means to turn from our sins and to commit ourselves to God and His will. Over 2700 years ago the Old Testament prophet Isaiah declared: “Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon” (Isaiah 55:6-7, NIV). Those words are as true today as they were over two and a half millennia ago.

Second, we must commit our lives to God, and to the moral and spiritual truths that have made this nation great. Think how different our nation would be if we sought to follow the simple and yet profound injunctions of the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount. But we must respond to God, Who is offering us forgiveness, mercy, supernatural help, and the power to change.

Third our commitment must be translated into action—in our homes, in our neighborhoods, and in our society.

Jesus taught there are only two roads in life. One is the broad road that is easy and well-traveled, but which leads to destruction. The other, He said, is the narrow road of truth and faith that at times is hard and lonely, but which leads to life and salvation.

As we face a new millennium, I believe America has gone a long way down the wrong road. We must turn around and go back and change roads. If ever we needed God’s help, it is now. If ever we needed spiritual renewal, it is now. And it can begin today in each one of our lives, as we repent before God and yield ourselves to Him and His Word.

What are YOU going to do?

The other day I heard the story of a high school principal who held an assembly for graduating seniors, inviting a recruiter from each branch of the service: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines to each give a twelve minute presentation on career opportunities they offered to the students. He stressed the importance of each staying within their allotted time.

The Army representative went first, and was so eloquent that he got a standing ovation, but went eighteen minutes. Not to be outdone, the Navy presentation was equally superb, but took nineteen minutes. Air Force then gave a sterling presentation, which lasted twenty minutes. By now, the principal was irate, and admonished the Marine recruiter that he had only three minutes before the students had to leave for the next class!

During the first two minutes of his shortened time, the Marine didn’t say a word, but individually and carefully studied the faces of each student. Finally, he said, “I’ve looked across this crowd and I see three or four individuals who have what it takes to be a United States Marine. If you think you are one of them, I want to see you down front immediately after this assembly.”

Who do you think drew the biggest crowd?

This afternoon, as I look out across this distinguished group gathered here, I see more than a few men and women who have what it takes, under God, to lead our country forward “through the night” into the next millennium—individuals who represent civic and governmental authority—as well as doctors, lawyers, clergy, artists and media.

Again, Ruth and I are deeply humbled by this award, and we thank you for all that it represents.

We pledge to continue the work that God has called us to do as long as we live.
Thank you.

MEXICO AT A CRITICAL JUNCTURE

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to share with my colleagues a brilliant analysis of the political and economic crisis in Mexico. The essay discusses the multiple causes that triggered the Mexican crisis, explains the measures that the Mexican Government has implemented to overcome the crisis and offers insights of the position our Government should adopt to help this troubled developing nation to flourish again.

This report was written by C. Allen Ellis—a well-known international specialist who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and diplomatic skills and whose opinion is respected in our country, Mexico and in the international financial circles. Among the multiple duties of his professional life, Mr. Ellis has served as an advisor to senior political, diplomatic, and financial authorities of the United States and Mexico. He also participated in the North American Free Trade Agreement process as advisor to key members of the United States Congress, the Government of Mexico and Mexico, private sector interests. And most importantly, Mr. Ellis is an active member of the North American Institute, an international think tank based in the heart of my district in Santa Fe, NM. I believe that my colleagues will benefit greatly from Mr. Ellis' report.

MEXICO AT A CRITICAL JUNCTURE

(By C. Allen Ellis)

THE 1994-1995 CRISIS

The years 1994-1995 were two of the most turbulent years in Mexico's modern history since the Revolution of 1910. An indigenous uprising in the southeastern state of Chiapas, which could represent a flashpoint for the vast number of our southern neighbor's rural and urban poor, continued to fester. Luis Donaldo Colosio, the presidential candidate of the country's dominant political party for 65 years, the Partido Revolucionario Institucional ("PRI"), was assassinated March 23, 1994 as he initiated his campaign, and a possible conspiracy and its participants is an issue which the judiciary and law enforcement branches of the government have been unable to resolve to date.

A relatively unknown substitute and politically inexperienced PRI candidate, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, was elected President September 1, 1994, in what observers and participants alike concluded was a model democratic election in Mexico.

The above dramatic events, along with a continuing rise in international interest rates, and a massive acceleration in Mexico's balance of trade and current account deficits, resulted in a growing erosion of confidence by foreign and Mexican investors alike in Mexico and in its capital market, which the bulk of capital flows earlier had found attractive, notably in the form of "Tesobonos", short-term, high-yielding, essentially dollar-denominated instruments.

The Government of Mexico's reliance on "Tesobonos" and on escalating short-term internal financing to meet its short and

long-term financial needs, was compounded by the failure of the outgoing administration of President Carlos Salinas to address the challenging issue of an over-valued currency. The international financial community would have accepted a devaluation prior to its leaving office, given its confidence in Mexico's outgoing political leadership and financial authorities, but the decision was made to avoid this unpalatable choice.

President Ernesto Zedillo and his inexperienced political and financial team were thus confronted, three weeks after taking office, with the fateful necessity to devalue. It was, inevitably, a failure, given its having to be attempted before the new administration had established its political and financial credibility compounded by its handling of the devaluation proper.

The result of the above-described confluence of events was a crisis year 1995 in which Mexico experienced its worst recession since 1932 with a fall in its gross domestic product of 6.9% inflation in excess of 50%, its currency devalued by a third against the dollar, at least 15,000 business failures, additional millions of unemployed or underemployed and a shattering loss of confidence by the Mexican people at all levels of society in the workings of their traditional political system and in their political and economic governance.

Fortunately for Mexico, and in the national self-interest of our own country, President William Clinton, his financial team and the Federal Reserve Board were joined by the international financial community and key members of both parties in our Congress in approval of timely and massive financial assistance to Mexico. This was in response to the economic stabilization program adopted by President Zedillo and Treasury Secretary Guillermo Ortiz, in close consultation with Secretary Robert Rubin and his team at Treasury working in tandem with the international financial agencies.

THE PRESENT ECONOMIC SCENARIO

At the recent Mexican Bankers Convention held March 15-16 the mood of the assembled banking representatives and senior government officials was realistic, if not somber. It was in striking contrast to the prior gathering in October 1994 where outgoing President Carlos Salinas presided and lauded his Treasury Secretary for his abilities and loyalty.

President Zedillo in his address to the 1996 assemblage reiterated that the economic austerity program of his administration would be continued. Treasury Secretary Ortiz thereafter described the slowing in the fourth quarter of 1995 of the economy's free-fall in the second and third quarters. He predicted that a slow recovery, and fall in Mexico's continuing inflation, would begin in the second quarter of 1996, making possible achievement of the 3% growth rate target for the year with moderating inflation.

However, the assembled Mexican and foreign bankers remained particularly troubled by the continuing crisis in the banking system where prevailing interest rates of 40% and higher, similar bad debt levels as a percentage of loans, and a growing non-payment mentality by borrowers, even when able to repay, were of increasing concern.

Our country's 1995 trade deficit of \$15.4 billion with Mexico was the first year since 1990 that imports exceeded exports, and was principally due to Mexico's deep recession, the devaluation of its currency and our own booming demand. Our exports to Mexico, in a total of \$46.3 billion, were down approximately 9% from their 1994 level but still 11% higher than in 1993, the year before NAFTA took effect. Despite earlier dire forecasts by Ross Perot and others of the effect NAFTA would have on employment, the Department

of Labor has reported that between January 1994 and February 1996 it certified for assistance 58,600 workers whose loss of jobs could be attributed to NAFTA, far fewer than had been predicted.

PRESIDENT ERNESTO ZEDILLO AND HIS POLICIES.

President Zedillo has begun his six-year term to end in the year 2000 embarked on a program to open and democratize Mexico's one-party political system, reform the authoritarian nature of its presidency, enhance the role of the legislative and judicial branches of government, and decentralize its federal-state relationships, all the while confronting Mexico's shattered economy and banking system. He has chosen a herculean course which, if successful, could dramatically change Mexico and result in its political modernization.

Many Mexicans, particularly among traditional political figures and their counterparts in the private sector, question whether this is the right course for Mexico and do not believe President Zedillo and his team have the experience, political skills and public support to accomplish the fundamental transformation involved. Notwithstanding there appears to be a gradual realization that President Zedillo, given his resolute and stubborn nature, will stay his present course. However, to assure the long-term success of this program his administration and he must develop greater political support at all levels within Mexico.

The importance of Mexico to our own country merits increasing appreciation here, not only as our partner with Canada in NAFTA, but as proof of the world's leading industrial democracy and a troubled developing nation, with which it shares a 3,000 mile border, can address their many common problems and prosper together.

IN HONOR OF ZUBERI MCKINNEY

HON. DOUGLAS "PETE" PETERSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on March 6, 1966, Zuberi McKinney, the beloved son of the U.S. Army Sgt. Maj. Gene C. McKinney, died as a result of a tragic automobile accident in Tallahassee, FL. Zuberi was 18 years old and attending his first year of college at Florida A&M University. Sergeant Major and Mrs. McKinney are long time residents of the Second Congressional District of Florida which I serve.

I lost my 17-year-old son several years ago in an accident very similar to that experienced by the McKinney family and know only too well the pain a family suffers having sustained a loss of this magnitude. It is a pain that never goes away, however there is comfort in that loved one's memory.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I wish to enter into the RECORD the words of Zuberi McKinney's parents as they celebrate Zuberi's 19th birthday. The composition speaks for itself in terms of compassion and grief, but it also speaks eloquently of a strong, close, loving family. A family whose bonds cannot be broken even in death.

IN HONOR OF ZUBERI MCKINNEY

Our Dear Son,

You've heard us say to you many times how we will always be proud of you and love you, No Matter What.

Today Dad and I were reminiscing about the Earthly life you have had and we have had because of you.

Sometime in September, 1976, we were told we would be parents approximately May 10, 1977. Who would have believed on May 10, in less than an hour from the time we arrived at the Frankfurt Hospital you were born!

We had researched our chosen names and daddy's name won because of a boy baby.

Zuberi Aswad. An African name from the Swahili language. Zuberi meaning Strong and Aswad meaning Black.

You grew quickly and learned lots. The first song you learned was, "Yes Jesus Loves Me."

Looking back over eighteen years you accomplished a great deal here on Earth. Your rambunctious sports years started at age three when you played on the Rowdies Soccer Team. You were skiing downhill at age five. You played football, baseball, tennis, percussion instruments in the band, piano, was on a swim team and played lots and lots of basketball, ending up on the Heidelberg Varsity Basketball team.

You were very inquisitive as a student and often challenged teachers, including us as parents. That was good . . . at times.

You always made friends easily and always had lots of them. We always noticed the characteristics of the ones you chose to keep as your Closest friends. They were always mannerable, had a great sense of humor, had a goal in life and most importantly as you once said, "Couldn't be broke all the time."

You got to live a very adventurous life on two continents. Visiting many different countries and states. Experiencing almost every mode of travel possible. You always believed in fun. You had it and we enjoyed having fun with you.

We are very unhappy right now because we miss your earthly flesh and we cry out because of earthly feelings. But we Thank God that He chose us to be your parents. We Thank God that He chose you to prepare our place in Heaven. Because we know you'll get the best. And we Thank God for this prayer:

Now I lay me down to sleep
I pray the Lord my soul to keep
If I should die before I wake
I pray the Lord my soul to take.

You slept with us sixteen days before the Lord took your soul to shine down on us from Heaven.

The Guardian Angel we placed over your heart was kissed by ours and we will wear it representing we will Never Ever part from you.

We'll talk to you daily from now until Eternity.

Love you forever,

MOM AND DAD.

HONORING THE HENDERSONVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Hendersonville Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study

the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, and well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

BENJAMIN BURROUGHS, HAWAII'S
1996 RESPECTEEN WINNER

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, as part of the Lutheran Brotherhood's Speak For Yourself program, over 15,000 students nationwide wrote to their Members of Congress on various public policy issues. Benjamin Burroughs, an eighth grader from my district, was chosen as the Hawaii State winner of the letter writing contest. In his thoughtful letter regarding persons with disabilities, he drew from his brother's experience with autism. He effectively argued that Congress should strengthen the Individuals with Disabilities Act and increase public awareness on the issue.

Benjamin is only 14 years old, but he wrote an excellent letter on a complex topic. I applaud his concern and willingness to take action on a matter that directly affects his family. Benjamin attends Kahuku High and Intermediate School. I join with his parents, Lonia and Jeffery Burroughs of Laie, HI, to congratulate Benjamin on an outstanding effort. The text of his letter is as follows:

January 30, 1996.

Hon PATSY MINK,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE MINK. I believe that with the new conservative Republican swing, there is a pressing problem that is like firecracker with a lit fuse waiting to burst. These legislators intend to put more power with the individual states and less with the federal government. This scares me because it is highly likely that some states will cut funding for the education of people with disabilities. In 1981 when federal law required education for children with mental disabilities from ages 3-5, states were given ten years to comply. Many states complied quickly but many did not. An example of this was South Carolina who waited until the last minute of the deadline to comply.

Early childhood intervention is a must. It is statistically proven that if children with disabilities are taught at an early age, they will be better able to function in society. If persons with disabilities are not taught early so that they can become productive members of society then they become financial burdens on society. It pays to intervene early.

My brother is autistic and if power goes to the states, a worst-case scenario would be

that he couldn't go to school altogether. There are two major things that you can do as a representative to solve this problem. First, influence other legislators to sustain the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act [I.D.E.A.] and to maintain current federal mandates protecting the rights of persons with disabilities. Second is to require a module in every Guidance/Health class in High School that will increase the overall education of everyone about persons with disabilities.

I think that if these two things are done then my brother and thousands of persons with disabilities will be able to have a good education and a better life.

Sincerely,

BEN BURROUGHS.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I regret my absence for rollcall No. 155, a motion to allow committees to sit. I was unavoidably detained at a legislative conference on the Senate side of the Capitol.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING THE VISION IMPAIRMENT CENTER TO OPTIMIZE REMAINING SIGHT [VICTORS] OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, it is a distinguished pleasure to announce to you that Mr. Joseph Maino, O.D. will receive the Olin E. Teague Award today on behalf of the Vision Impairment Center To Optimize Remaining Sight [VICTORS] team of Kansas City, MO.

VICTORS is a Department of Veterans Affairs special medical program designed to provide optimum low vision rehabilitation services to veterans with visual impairments. The team members evaluate, diagnose, and rehabilitate veterans from a six-State area: Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. More than twenty medical centers and outpatient clinics refer blind and visually impaired veterans to the program. The center has helped more than 1,500 veterans since it first opened in 1979. The team members' continuing creativity and dedication results in innovative methods and tools to combat the effects of severe vision loss. For this reason, our Nation's veterans live better and more fulfilling lives.

The Olin E. Teague Award is the highest honor the VA awards in the field of rehabilitation. It is presented annually to a VA employee, or group of employees working as a team, whose achievements have been of extraordinary benefit to veterans with service-connected disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, the name Olin E. Teague is synonymous with exemplary service to the Nation's veterans and is the reason this award bears his name. The late Congressman Teague served on the House Veterans' Affairs

Committee for 32 years, 18 of those years as its distinguished chairman. He set the standards by which we can best serve all veterans.

It is with pleasure that on behalf of my colleagues and myself, I offer our deep appreciation to the VICTORS team for their concern, dedication, and innovation in meeting the special needs of veterans. We congratulate them for the excellence of their work and for the distinguished award they will receive.

REPUBLICAN BALANCED BUDGET PROPOSAL PART II

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Republican leadership, just in time for Presidential election year politics is talking about a balanced budget again. This is déjà vu for the American voter who well remembers the campaign promises of Ronald Reagan who predicted that he could balance the Federal budget by cutting taxes and increasing spending. Candidate George Bush called that budgetary slight of hand "Voodoo Economics."

The results of two Reagan terms was a budget deficit which for the first time in any country's history used the term trillion to quantify the extent of the deficit.

I would assume that there is a campaign commercial spot for every stage of this upcoming budget drama that the Republican majority is planning.

Medicare, Medicaid, education, and welfare are on the top of the list for cuts right now, but I think that we can find ways to be fair and just when we make budgetary reduction decisions without shutting the Federal Government down.

I would hope that this next attempt to seriously deal with this Nation's budget deficit will include compassion for the poor, our children and the elderly.

We should not play election year politics with this country's budget.

HONORING THE JENNINGS CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Jennings Creek Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming

a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

SHOULD A FEDERAL BUILDING BE USED FOR ILLEGAL PURPOSES?

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, the following article describes an event that should never have taken place in a Federal building. Even worse, after this vulgar event occurred, a followup recovery brunch was held in another Federal building—our own Rayburn building.

Mr. Speaker, I hope all of our colleagues will pay close attention to the following.

GOP: CHOOSING SIDES IN THE CULTURE WAR?

(By Marc Morano)

An all night homosexual "circuit" party called Cherry Jubilee's "Main Event" took place in Washington, D.C. on April 13, 1996. The dance party featured public nudity, illicit sexual activity and evidence of illegal drug use. The sponsors of the gay festivities included a GOP congressman and a host of corporations. A Federal building, the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium, played host to the dance and was the backdrop for the illegal activity. The sponsors included Gay Republican Rep. Steve Gunderson of Wisconsin, corporate America including American Airlines, Snapple, Lite Beer, Starbucks Coffee, and Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream. The "Main Event" was followed by a "Capitol Hill Recovery Brunch" on Capitol Hill in the Rayburn House Office building. Rep. Gunderson (R-WI) secured the Rayburn building for the "recovery brunch". All the net proceeds of the Jubilee weekend were to be distributed between Whitman-Walker Clinic and Food & Friends.

The Mellon Auditorium is a Federally owned building complete with classical ornate columns across the street from the Museum of American History on Constitution Ave. The "Main Event" was being described by the City Paper in Washington as "New York style gay 'circuit' party . . . usually drug infested." It was with this information that I proceeded on assignment into the gay world for an undercover investigation into the activities that occurred in a Federal building. My inquiry revealed that the Cherry Jubilee's "Main Event" featured a multitude of illegal activity.

The Jubilee's "Main Event" tickets were very hard to come by. The event sold out, which left a scramble for ticket scalpers outside the entrance. Several thousand men attended, most between the ages of 25-35 years old. Well over 90% were white, with only a few African-Americans and Asians present. Many of the men who attended were of obvious affluence. Limousines and even a Rolls Royce lined Constitution Avenue as the party goers arrived.

The clothing was very trendy with skin tight black jeans, and tank tops. The bartenders wore bright neon underwear and nothing else. Many of the men arrived with leather and rubber pants and neon rubber loin cloth underwear only. Most of the shirts came off as the men headed for the dance floor.

Body piercing was ubiquitous with piercing in nipples, navels and ears. Chains and dog collars were also prevalent. In addition, cross dressing was a common sight, as a heavy presence of transvestites and other "transgendered" men attended. Men with wigs and dresses in heavy makeup strolled through the auditorium. Several pairs of lesbians attended as well, parading around in very skimpy clothing.

There were no signs of aggressive behavior, as most attendees greeted each other with open mouthed kisses. No fights or altercations occurred throughout the night. The terms "fags" and "girls" were frequently used by the men to refer to themselves.

Overall the men were generally very neat, with meticulous hair and clothing. There were few if any men who could be described as overweight. In fact, the overwhelming majority had bodies sculpted from weight lifting. Beer and bottled water were the beverages of choice, while apples, bananas and oranges were in plentiful supply. The image of young active health conscious men, drinking bottled water and consuming fruit is a study in contrast. The reckless lifestyle inherent in the gay experience results in a notably reduced life span. The life expectancy of a homosexual male is estimated to be no more than 41 years old, regardless of AIDS. The homosexual communities credo seems to be "Die young and leave a pretty corpse."

As the constant thump, thump, thump of the techno music heated the crowd, the dancing became increasingly lewd and suggestive. As the night wore on, the dancers began simulated sexual gyrations. The dance floor became a torrent of intense groping and stroking. Some couples dancing on table tops, mimicked anal sex through their clothing while others pantomimed oral sex. At one point while dancing on a table top, one of the lesbians lifted her bra and exposed her breasts. Meanwhile, several inflated condoms were batted about like volleyballs.

At about 4 a.m., two men proceeded to engage in illicit sexual behavior in the main auditorium. One man lowered his head onto the crotch of another man and began to perform oral sex. This act occurred just off the dance floor in full view of the crowd. No one seemed to be fazed by it one bit.

The restroom stalls at the Mellon Auditorium were constantly being occupied by two men at a time. Gropes and groans could be heard emanating from the stalls with double occupancy. Stall doors would open and two men would nonchalantly exit. A battle between security and the party goers erupted over the restroom lights. Security was then forced to designate officers in the restrooms to ensure the lights remained on. The officers on duty did not look pleased with this assignment.

Every conceivable isolated spot became a dilemma for security. Security officers had to diligently watch the outside courtyard stairwell in the smoking area. The steps led to a dark alley on the side of the building where many of the men were congregating. The progression of couples heading into the darkness of the alley eventually forced security to intervene. Orange cones were erected to close the area off, as a security officer was assigned to stand watch. Public urination was common as the men relieved themselves outside and even in front of the building facing Constitution Avenue.

Despite signs posted everywhere stating, "Use or possession of illegal substances

strictly forbidden", evidence of illegal drug use was present. Snorting could be heard throughout the evening in the bathroom stalls. At one point a straw fell onto the bathroom floor from inside a stall. There was also clandestine exchanges of money and substances in dark corners of the dance floor throughout the night.

This was not the first time that the Mellon Auditorium played host to a gay event. During the "1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation", the Mellon Auditorium was host to the officially sanctioned "The National S/M Leather Fetish Conference." The 1993 Gay March was designed to show America that gays are in the mainstream of society and just like everybody else. The S/M event featured members of the hardcore dominant and submissive homosexual community. Interviews I conducted at the time with participants revealed men who viewed pain as pleasure and total domination as an ideal. The participants paraded around the Mellon auditorium in dog collars, chains, and had piercing in every conceivable body part. Virtually nude men who were "submissive" were being led around on leashes by their "dominant" partners or "masters".

The 1993 S/M conference at the Mellon Auditorium also featured a slide show presentation, show casing an example of some of the "mainstream" aspects of the gay lifestyle. A series of graphic photos depicting various sexual acts were prominently displayed. One photo featured a man "fisting" another man. "Fisting" is the practice of inserting a fist as far up the anus as is possible. The image on the screen defied human anatomy. The arm was inserted up to the elbow. Participants at the event pondered the series of photos as though viewing price-less artwork.

The 1993 S/M conference also featured sexually explicit magazines and paraphernalia to help fully experience the S & M lifestyle. One tract titled "The guide to safe S/M" cautioned that consuming fecal matter was a "high risk activity" for the transmission of the HIV virus, but maintained that urinating in the mouth was a "low risk activity". Several publications on display advocated pedophilia.

In order to procure a Federal building for any type of event, a maze of paper work must be filled out and adherence to strict regulations must be met. Despite the flaunting of public nudity, illicit sexual activity, illegal drug use and pornography at both of these homosexual events, law enforcement never intervened. Contrast this with the controversy that inevitably follows when someone attempts to erect a nativity scene in a public building.

The 1966 Cherry Jubilee weekend proves that the homosexual agenda is advancing in Washington. The use of two Federal buildings during the Cherry Jubilee weekend in Washington reveals how successful the homosexual lobby has been in "mainstreaming" their agenda. Voters, consumers and stockholders should hold the government and corporations accountable when they underwrite events like Cherry Jubilee. The voters need to ask which side of the "Culture War" the Republican party is on and what real change the so called "GOP Revolution" has wrought. The GOP leadership on Capitol Hill needs to explain how an event which featured illicit sexual activity, public nudity and evidence of illegal drug use was allowed to occur in a Federal building.

LEGISLATION TO AMEND THE PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ACT OF 1921

HON. TIM JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, as you know, our Nation's cattle producers face an extraordinary combination of devastatingly low cattle prices and a fed cattle market that has had its competitive nature potentially compromised. With the price of fed cattle even lower than during the Great Depression—when adjusted for inflation—it is critical that Congress and the administration act to improve the competitive nature of cattle markets and the prosperity of our producers.

I am pleased today to introduce legislation that will give the administration legal authority to enact the following reforms:

One, direct the Administrator of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration to develop and implement rules that prohibit noncompetitive captive supply. These should address potential limitations on packer ownership and feeding of slaughter cattle and formula arrangements in which price is not determined competitively. Cattle producers from across the Nation, including the thousands who have recently offered testimony to Secretary Glickman's Advisory Committee on Agricultural Concentration, have clearly identified noncompetitive captive supply as harmful to producers.

Two, direct the Secretary of Agriculture to devise and implement regulations that require mandatory reporting of the prices and terms of sale for slaughter livestock—and the meat and byproducts of such slaughter—purchased by packers who have greater than 5 percent of the market for a given species. This information would be reported to USDA and be made public on an immediate basis. As we move toward an information-based society, the maxim that "knowledge is power" is especially true for our farmers and ranchers.

Three, direct the Secretary of Agriculture to develop rules that require the reporting of export sales of meat to USDA on a weekly basis. This action would help to ensure that all market participants have the opportunity to a level playing field in regard to information about the market.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain that you and the rest of my colleagues share my concerns regarding the concentration in agricultural processing that is ripping through rural American and the potential that this concentration may in fact deny competitive markets for independent producers. I ask my colleagues to join me in making possible these much-needed reforms.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 3401, THE BREAST CANCER RESEARCH STAMP ACT

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I introduced legislation which would

provide additional funding for breast cancer research. This innovative idea would authorize the U.S. Postal Service to issue a special first class stamp to be priced at 1 cent above the cost of normal first-class postage. The additional penny would be earmarked for breast cancer research. If only one quarter of the first class letters in the country were sent with this stamp, breast cancer research would receive about \$120 million in additional funds.

The special issued first class stamp would be an entirely voluntary method for interested postal patrons to contribute to breast cancer research. The stamp would deliver a first-class letter as well as provide the satisfaction of contributing to a cause that saves lives.

Since 1960, nearly 1 million American women have died of breast cancer. That number is higher than all of the battlefield casualties that America has suffered this century. Moreover, the overall mortality rate for breast cancer has not changed much despite advances in pharmaceutical, radiological, and surgical interventions.

Given the intense competition for Federal research dollars in a climate of shrinking budgets, the Breast Cancer Research Stamp Act would allow anyone who used the Postal Service to contribute to research which will one day result in a cure for breast cancer. Any funds generated by sale of the breast cancer research stamp will supplement—not replace—current appropriations for Federal breast cancer research.

We need to find a cure for breast cancer now. I believe that the Breast Cancer Research Stamp Act is an inventive response to an extremely serious health crisis. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

AMERICA DESERVES TAX RELIEF

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, this week, America's families finally began to work to provide for their own needs. For the first 128 days of this year, America's families worked to provide for the government.

Since President Clinton took office in 1993, his tax and spend policies have forced taxpayers to work another 6 days to pay their taxes—that is a week's paycheck that they cannot use for their families. The average American will spend more time working to pay his tax bill than he will spend working to provide for food, clothing, and shelter combined. Under the Clinton administration, the rate of growth of real median family income has been zero percent. America's families deserve better.

My Republican colleagues and I believe American taxpayers are taxed too much. If the President and his colleagues are serious about providing tax relief for hard-working families, they will take a first step and join us in our effort to repeal the 4.3-cent gas tax hike. Already, the President is threatening to veto such a measure—just like he vetoed tax relief for American families when he took his veto pen to the Republican balanced budget bill.

I guess the President and his colleagues just like taxes. They have not made an honest

effort yet, to bring taxes to a reasonable level and give families back their own money. In fact, just 2 days ago, a colleague of the President brought the other body to a standstill during an attempt to repeal the Clinton tax, saying, "We are simply going to shut this place down." The President and his colleagues will stop at nothing to keep America's tax dollars.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for Americans to earn more and keep more of what they earn. I urge the President and his friends to join my Republican colleagues and I and give American families the tax relief they deserve.

HONORING THE FARMINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Farmington Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

100 CLUB OF BUFFALO

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, Friday, May 17, 1996, will mark the 12th annual 100 Club of Buffalo and Buffalo Bisons Baseball/Law Enforcement, Fire and EMS Appreciation Day at North AmeriCare Park in Buffalo, NY.

This spectacular event will feature law enforcement, fire, and EMS vehicles, a Buffalo Bisons baseball game and a fireworks display. This fundraising event is yet another example of the 100 Club of Buffalo's continuing commitment to provide services to the members of law enforcement, fire, and EMS agencies, and their families, throughout western New York.

The 100 Club of Buffalo Inc. was founded in 1957 by former Buffalo Police Commissioner Frank Felicetta to provide financial assistance to families of public servants killed or seriously injured in the line of duty. The organization was only the second of its kind in the Nation and was called "Felicetta's Fellows" until it was incorporated in 1962 as the 100 Club of Buffalo Inc.

Over the last four decades, this independent, nonprofit and nonpartisan organization has grown to serve law enforcement, fire, and EMS officials in a variety of ways. The 100 Club has provided over \$1.5 million in assistance to more than 60 family members of fallen law enforcement and fire personnel, has sponsored more than 100 candidates to the FBI Academy and has provided tuition assistance and seminar training to more than 500 law enforcement and fire personnel. Moreover, the 100 Club has recognized public servants and private individuals for acts of heroism. In addition, the 100 Club has sponsored more than a dozen training seminars for law enforcement and fire personnel and provided more than 90 grants to assist injured police and firefighters.

The 180 members of the 100 Club of Buffalo reflect why Buffalo is the City of Good Neighbors, a community which recognizes as well as cares for those who make major sacrifices to protect it. They deserve our most sincere thanks, commendation, and best wishes for continued success.

ARMORED CAR INDUSTRY RECIPRO- CITY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1996

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Armored Car Industry Reciprocity Improvement Act of 1996. This legislation represents a major improvement to legislation originally enacted in 1993 which provided reciprocity among the States for weapons licenses issued to armored car crews.

Armored cars and their crews annually carry billions of dollars in currency, important documents, and other valuables. In fact, the Federal Government is one of the largest users of armored car services in the Nation, transporting hundreds of millions of dollars annually in currency, food stamps, and other negotiable documents. Because of the value of their cargo, armored cars remain a ripe target for crime and their crews must be armed to protect themselves and their cargo.

In order to address the problems arising from differing requirements among the States for weapons licenses, the Congress passed the Armored Car Industry Reciprocity Act in 1993. This statute granted reciprocity for weapons among the States, so long as the issuing State met certain minimum training standards and required criminal background checks, much like a driver's license. While this act has improved the flow of interstate commerce by reducing the need for armored car crews to obtain licenses in every State in which they might conceivably operate, we have found certain problems in the original act which need to be addressed if the law is to have its full effect.

The Armored Car Industry Reciprocity Improvement Act of 1996 makes several changes to the original act. It would:

Grant reciprocity for the weapons license and all other necessary licenses so long as the armored car crew member has met all requirements in his or her primary State;

Require FBI criminal background checks only for the granting of an initial license, and permits the State agency to use whatever means they deem best to check backgrounds for renewal applications; and

Eliminate the requirement that renewal applications be reissued annually.

These changes are primarily technical in nature, and result from the fact that, while the Congress was considering the original bill, many States changed their weapons licensing schemes.

Nothing in this legislation would make it easier for a criminal to obtain a weapon or circumvent State or Federal gun control laws. It simply allows the brave men and women who serve as armored car crews to worry about their job—protecting valuable cargo—rather than worrying about various States' licensing requirements and paperwork.

The original legislation was supported by groups as diverse as the National Rifle Association and the International Chiefs of Police, and groups such as Handgun Control International had no objection to its passage. Since these changes simply are designed to improve the functioning of the original act, it is my belief that we can expect similar support for this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation when it comes to the floor.

FISCAL YEAR 1996 BUDGET

HON. PETER G. TORKILDSEN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the final piece of the fiscal year 1996 budget—the first downpayment on a 7-year balanced budget. This conference report is the product of months of negotiations and many compromises. It cuts discretionary spending by \$23 billion and sets the stage for the balanced budget this Congress promised to deliver.

A major victory in this package is language I sponsored to repeal the discriminatory ban on HIV-positive military personnel. The so-called HIV-discharge law was inserted into the fiscal year 1996 Defense authorization bill over the objections of the Pentagon, veterans groups, and many distinguished Members of the House and Senate. With the repeal of this provision in the conference support, I urge all my colleagues to cast a vote for simple fairness, commonsense, and all men and woman who serve our country with honor and distinction.

In addition, this budget plan restores over \$2 billion in Federal education funding. The original House-passed spending bill contained deep cuts in title I, School-to-Work, Goals 2000, and other key programs. The conference report restores much of the education funding needed to maintain a commitment to America's children and I urge my colleagues

to remember that a vote for this bill is a vote for educational opportunity.

Finally, due to extensive good-faith negotiations, this bill is a win for our environment. It does more to protect endangered species than the original House version, and eliminates a provision allowing oil drilling at the Tongas National Forest—the world's largest temperate rainforest. And under the final compromise, the National Park Service retains management authority of the Mojave Desert National Preserve—as outlined in the California Desert Protection Act Congress passed in 1994.

Overall, Mr. Speaker, this budget package is the right thing to do for our children and grandchildren who deserve our best efforts to give them a deficit-free future. This plan is the first concrete step in honoring this commitment and I urge all Members of the House to support final passage.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Association of Letter Carriers who will be holding their annual "Food Drive" Day this Saturday, May 11, 1996. I would especially like to recognize those letter carriers in California's 13th Congressional District who have worked so diligently over the past few years to make this food drive such a great success.

The National Association of Letter Carriers' Food Drive Day began as a pilot program in just 10 cities in 1991. It has since grown into one of the largest one day food collection drives in our entire nation. Since 1993, letter carriers across the country have joined in a nationwide effort to make the second Saturday in May, "National Letter Carriers' Food Drive" Day.

This program has been a tremendous success. The first nationwide drive, in 1993, gathered 11 million pounds of food. In 1994, 32 million pounds of food were collected and in 1995 almost 45 million pounds of food were donated by postal patrons nationwide. This Saturday, letter carriers will pick up food donations as they deliver the mail. To participate, one leaves canned or non-perishable food next to one's mail box or takes it to the nearest Post Office. All of the food items collected that day are then delivered to local food banks.

Mr. Speaker, in the Bay Area, almost 300,000 people—half of them children—need emergency food. I urge you and my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the National Association of Letter Carriers for their efforts to help those who are less fortunate. I also urge anyone who can to participate in this Saturday's National Association of Letter Carriers' Food Drive.

HONORING THE FIVE POINT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Five Point Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION AND SOUTH ASIA

HON. TIM JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I have long advocated the importance of

the U.S. role in responsible trade in conventional arms and nuclear technologies, and I feel strongly that, as the world's remaining superpower, the United States can and should set an international example of positive political change through monitoring trade in nuclear technologies. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, I believe that stopping the proliferation of nuclear weapons should be our highest priority in international relations. I am a strong supporter of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and its member nations. The NPT has helped prevent dramatic increase in nuclear weapon-capable states. I was encouraged by last year's indefinite extension of the NPT by consensus over 175 nations, and I actively encourage the recognition of nonproliferation at every level as the key to global security.

Since its implementation in 1970, however, many nations that have remained outside of the NPT have concentrated on the buildup of their own nuclear capabilities. These threshold nuclear states view the NPT as discriminatory, because the treaty divides the world into the nuclear haves and have nots and, as they see it, unfairly places nonnuclear nations at a strategic disadvantage relative to the nuclear states. At the same time, several of these nations have stated that, without significant steps toward reducing stockpiles for all member nations, the NPT cannot be the foundation for an end to the arms race and complete nuclear disarmament.

Nowhere is this attitude more alarming than in South Asia. Regional religious and political history, particularly with India and Pakistan, has encouraged heightened military unease in the region, and an association of nuclear capability with regional dominance. Pakistan, a nation of 130 million, has long feared being overwhelmed militarily by India, with its population of over 900 million. Historical alliances and relations with nuclear and nonnuclear nations elsewhere in the region have contributed to forcing these two countries in a race toward nuclear weapon capacity. I believe the nuclear arms race saps the strength of any developing country, and I have repeatedly expressed my concern about the nuclear direction in which these two nations have been headed. The future of our national, as well as global, security depends more than anything on our ability to restrain the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and to enhance the breadth of opportunities for every citizen of the world.